GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3100
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2001
PERMISSION TO STATES TO EXPORT SURPLUS PRODUCTS
ANANT GANGARAM GEETE

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the heavy surplus stock of food, fruits and other items available with State Governments;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to permit the State Governments to export the surplusproducts available with them directly to foreign countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

(a),(b),(c)&(d): The policy of the Government to permit exports of agricultural products is governed principally by the concerns of India`s food security, maximizing farm incomes and earning foreign exchange. Review of export performance of agricultural products is an on-going process and accordingly policy interventions are made, as and when considered necessary, with a view to making agricultural exports increasingly viable. Export policy is being constantly updated and export regime in respect of agricultural products has been liberalized. Very few items are now either prohibited for exports, or their exports restricted, or are subject to quantitative ceilings. Anyone, including State Governments, can export agricultural products.